

I also want to thank and recognize the guardians and group leaders on this flight, as well as the dedicated Board Members of Honor Flight of Oregon, who worked so hard to make this trip happen.

Mr. Speaker, at the height of the Civil War in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln wrote, "Honor to the Soldier, and Sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause." Each of us in this Chamber and in this Nation should be humbled by the courage of these brave veterans who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country.

WELCOMING THE ROMANIAN
PRESIDENT TO THE UNITED
STATES

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to welcome Romanian President Klaus Iohannis to our Nation's Capital, and I look forward to personally meeting with him this evening. Two days ago, President Iohannis placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the Arlington National Cemetery, honoring the memory of our service members. Tomorrow, he is meeting with President Trump and other American officials. Romania is a stalwart U.S. partner and an important member of the NATO Alliance. It hosts the Aegis Ashore Missile Defense System at Deveselu military base, which protects NATO members from ballistic missile threats originating from the Middle East.

Romania has also been a staunch American ally in global counterterrorism operations against ISIS and Al Qaeda, collaborating on intelligence-sharing initiatives to support U.S. and NATO operations. The Romanian armed forces have supported U.S. and NATO missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other theaters for over a decade, contributing more than 30,000 total combat and support personnel. With over 600 troops currently serving in Afghanistan, Romania maintains the fourth largest NATO contingent protecting vital U.S. security interests and the safety of Afghan communities and international forces.

I join all my colleagues in welcoming a true friend, Romanian President Klaus Iohannis.

COMMENDING COLONEL ANTHONY
MITCHELL

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Colonel Anthony Mitchell for his efforts as Commander of the St. Louis District of the U.S. Army Corps of

Engineers. Before his command ends in June of 2017, he will have overseen nearly \$200 million in civil works water resource planning, design, construction, and regulatory functions in the states of Illinois and Missouri.

Mitchell began his duties as the 51st Commander of the St. Louis District in 2014 and has since then worked to provide leadership and direction to more than 700 military and civilian personnel, functioning to provide water resource engineering solutions to the 300 miles of the Mississippi watershed above the Ohio River.

Aside from his accomplishments in engineering, Mitchell's military decorations are praiseworthy as well. Featuring two Bronze Star Medals; the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, four Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, four Army Achievement Medals, the Parachutist Badge and the Army Engineer Association's Bronze de Fleury Medal. Additionally, in 2012 Mitchell was recognized as the Black Engineer of the Year Award Recipient for Professional Achievement in Government. These awards are truly a testament to Mitchell and the level of dedication he puts in to his work.

Colonel Mitchell's commitment to the St. Louis District has undoubtedly contributed to the Mississippi Valley Region's excellence and I congratulate him on his many achievements and thank him for his work.

NEVAEH JENSEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nevaeh Jensen for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Nevaeh Jensen is a student at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nevaeh Jensen is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nevaeh Jensen for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE BROWARD
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the honorees of the Broward Education Foundation for their efforts to make the Broward County Public School system one of the best in the state. These men and women have served Broward County with distinction

through their efforts, and they have demonstrated a commitment to improving our public schools in South Florida.

The Broward Education Foundation helps to provide the students of Broward County with an exceptional education, enabling them to reach their greatest potential. The scholarships provided by the Foundation will enable 190 students this year alone to pursue their goals of higher education.

I express deep appreciation for the Broward Education Foundation's important work. Their dedication has truly changed lives by providing students the educational tools they need to achieve success. I thank them for their work and service.

HONORING BOB PESTONI

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bob Pestoni upon the occasion of celebrating 125 years of family winemaking in the Napa Valley.

A native of St. Helena, California, Mr. Pestoni graduated from St. Helena High School before attending Napa Valley College and then joining the U.S. Army. Mr. Pestoni is the descendant of the Pestino and Domingos winemaking families.

Mr. Pestoni's great-great-grandfather, Albino Pestoni, immigrated to Napa Valley from a small village in Switzerland near the Italian border in 1892. Ten years later, he, his wife Maria Madonna, and their four sons established Bonded Winery 935. One of those sons, Henry, formed a vineyard management crew and planted and managed vineyards throughout the upper Napa Valley. He learned how soil, sunlight, rootstock, and varietal selection could affect fruit quality, and, along with his wife Lena, he owned and operated Old Mill Winery from 1933 to 1958.

Mr. Pestoni and his brother Marvin used their foundation in sustainable farming to establish Upper Valley Disposal Service in 1963. Paying the same careful attention to the soil as their ancestors did, the brothers offered composting as a solution to our local wine community's discarded grape skin, pulp, seeds, and stems. Upper Valley Disposal and Recycling has been very successful, inspiring our community to refer to Mr. Pestoni as the "King of Compost."

After many years of growing winegrapes for other wine producers, Mr. Pestoni and his wife, Sylvia, opened the doors of Rutherford Grove Winery in 1994. This year, in celebration of their family's 125th anniversary of Napa Valley Winemaking, the winery was renamed Pestoni Family Estate Winery.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Pestoni and his family before him have made single vineyard, hand-crafted wines for 125 years. They are my friends. I am proud that this hardworking man and family do so much for our community. It is fitting and proper that we honor them here today.